

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



SUFFOLK COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

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Court Actions
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FILED
IN CLERK'S OFFICE
U.S. DISTRICT COURT, N.Y.

★ AUG 23 2019

LONG ISLAND OFFICE

Date: AUG 21 2019

To whom it may concern:

Please find a Certified Copy of our Clerk's Minutes for the E-filed Supreme Court case, Index # 615507/2019, along with a copy of the Notice of Removal or 8019(c) with order.

Since the above mentioned case is E-filed, there are no hard copies of the documents. If you need hard copies of the case, please refer to the Attorneys representing the parties who should be able to furnish your office with such copies.

If you have any questions, please call the number at the top of this page.

Thank you,

Laurie Edwards
Senior Office Assistant

19cv4666 (JMA)(GLB)



**COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK**

I, JUDITH A. PASCALE, Clerk of the County of Suffolk and the Court of Record thereof do hereby certify that I have compared the annexed with the original **CLERKS MINUTES (NYSCEF)** filed in my office on **08/21/2019** and, that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County and Court this **8/21/2019**

SUFFOLK COUNTY CLERK

Judith A. Pascale

JUDITH A. PASCALE

SEAL



NYSCEF

Suffolk County Supreme Court

Document List**Index # 615507/2019**

Created on:08/21/2019 10:09 AM

Case Caption: Dustin Hice v. Don Lemon**Judge Name:**

Doc#	Document Type/Information	Status	Date Received	Filed By
1	SUMMONS	Processed	08/11/2019	Miltenberg, A.
2	COMPLAINT Verified Complaint	Processed	08/11/2019	Miltenberg, A.
3	NOTICE OF REMOVAL / REMAND (PRE RJI)	Processed	08/13/2019	Lavigne, C.

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK**

Dustin Hice,

Plaintiff,

Index No. 615507/2019

-against-

Don Lemon

Defendant.

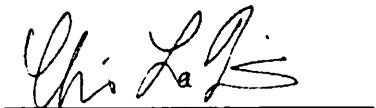
NOTICE OF FILING OF NOTICE OF REMOVAL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, on August 13, 2019, a Notice of Removal of the above-captioned action was filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. This action now bears docket number 2:19-cv-04666. A true copy of the Notice of Removal with electronic file stamp is attached as Exhibit A hereto.

Accordingly, the entire Supreme Court action has been removed to the United States District Court, EASTERN DISTRICT of New York.

Dated: August 13, 2019
New York, New York

Respectfully Submitted,



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TO: **VIA NYSCEF**

Andrew T. Miltenberg, Esq.
Nesenoff & Miltenberg, LLP
363 Seventh Avenue, 5th Floor
New York, New York 10001

Attorneys for Plaintiff Dustin Hice

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Dustin Hice,

Docket No. _____

Plaintiff,

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

-against-

Jury Trial Demanded

Don Lemon

Defendant.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that, PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441 *et seq.*, Don Lemon, named herein as Defendant, through his attorneys, Pierce Bainbridge Beck Price & Hecht LLP, hereby remove the New York State Supreme Court action described below to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York on the following grounds:

1. On August 11, 2019, Dustin Hice, the plaintiff named in the caption above, commenced an action in the Supreme Court for the State of New York, County of Suffolk, entitled *Dustin Hice v. Don Lemon*, 615507/2019 (“State Court Action”). The complaint in this action (“Complaint” or “Compl.”) brings causes of action arising from an alleged assault and battery of Plaintiff while he was in Sag Harbor, New York. A copy of the summons (“Summons”) and Complaint in this action is annexed hereto as Exhibit 1. Plaintiff has not served Defendant with the Complaint or Summons, but Plaintiff became aware of the Summons and Complaint on August 11, 2019 when Plaintiff electronically filed these documents on NYSCEF.

2. This Notice of Removal is being filed within 30 days after receipt by Defendant of the copy of the initial pleading setting forth the claim for relief upon which the action is based. Thus, this Notice of Removal is timely filed in this Court.

3. The State Court Action is a civil action of which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) (diversity) and which may be removed to this Court pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §§1441 *et seq.*

4. Plaintiff Dustin Hice is an individual. On information and belief, when the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Hice was, and still is, a citizen and resident of the State of Florida. On information and belief, when the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Hice was, and still is, domiciled solely in Florida. On information and belief, when the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Hice was not, and still is not, a citizen of any State other than Florida or a citizen of any country other than the United States. In the Complaint, Mr. Hice states: "At all times relevant to this Complaint, Plaintiff was and is a male citizen of the United States who resides in the State of Florida." (Compl. ¶ 3.)

5. Defendant Don Lemon is an individual. When the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Lemon was, and still is, a citizen and resident of the State of New York. When the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Lemon was, and still is, domiciled solely in New York. On information and belief, when the Summons and Complaint were filed, Mr. Lemon was not, and still is not, a citizen of any State other than New York or a citizen of any country other than the United States.

6. In his Complaint, Plaintiff seeks extensive damages against Defendant for "reimbursement of and prepayment for all of Plaintiff's expenses including expenses incurred as

a consequence of the assault; damages for deprivations of the access to career opportunities; and damages for past, present, and future emotional pain and suffering, ongoing and severe mental anguish, and loss of past, present, and future earnings and enjoyment of life in an amount to be determined at trial.” (Compl. at 8.) Given the wide-ranging damages Plaintiff requests and the severity of Plaintiff’s alleged emotional distress,¹ the amount in controversy is above \$75,000 in this action.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Don Lemon prays that this action be removed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Dated: August 13, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,



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Counsel for Defendant Don Lemon

¹ Plaintiff alleges that his emotional distress was severe enough to result in “sickness” and “mental harm,” (Compl. ¶¶ 41, 49) and that “Plaintiff found himself withdrawn from friends and family, suffered feelings of shame, humiliation, anxiety, anger, and guilt. Plaintiff found himself unable to sleep and at times, and suffered from suicidal ideations.” (Compl. ¶ 28.)